

reaching students and challenging them to fulfill their academic potential. They are cultivating future leaders, who may someday stand where I do today.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to you these dedicated students, and I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their past achievements, encouraging them in their future endeavors, and supporting the successful Project GRAD Newark program as they continue to serve the students in my district.

RECOGNIZING ALEC MESSERALL
FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud that as we celebrate the life of President Ronald Reagan, a fellow Central Ohioan will participate in our tribute. Air Force Academy Cadet Alec Messerall of Alexandria, Ohio, has been chosen as one of five service members to escort the casket of President Reagan from the White House down Constitution Avenue to the Capitol.

Alec is a 22-year-old senior at the academy who graduated from Northridge High School in Johnstown, Ohio. His leadership skills, academic and athletic record, and his extracurricular activities led my predecessor, John Kasich, to nominate him for an academy appointment.

I know Alec and his family are extremely proud he was chosen to be part of the historic events that are unfolding in our Nation's capitol as we honor our former President. All of us also look forward to Alec's service to our country in the United States Air Force. I am certain he will be an outstanding military officer.

HONORING THE EASTER SEALS
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES REHABILITATION CENTER ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker 35 years ago, a historic merger occurred which resulted in the creation of the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center. Today, community leaders, supporters, advocates, and participants have gathered to mark this very special occasion. It is with my heart-felt thanks and sincere appreciation that I rise today to join them in celebrating this important milestone.

What began as three separate agencies has become one of the most successful and effective non-profit agencies in the Greater New Haven area. This community-based organization is committed to its mission to enhance employment opportunities and the quality of life for people with disabilities and other special needs. Throughout the years, as communities advanced, those needs have changed. As an organization rooted in the community,

the Center has been able to identify those changes and adapt its programs and services to meet them. This could not have been accomplished without the strength of support the Center has received from its staff and the communities of Greater New Haven.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the vision and leadership of the man who has been leading this agency for the last twenty years—Malcolm Gill. For the last two decades, Mal has worked diligently to ensure that the Center is providing the programs and services that meet the needs of their participants. There is no one who could be more dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the organization. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with him so closely over the years and to call him my friend.

For people with disabilities and other special needs, functioning in the daily activities that we take for granted is not only challenging, but it can be a source of frustration and heartache. While these men and women have a deep desire to contribute to the community, physical or mental limitations make that difficult to accomplish. That is why the Center has become such a fundamental part of our community. They provide a gift which is truly invaluable—the opportunity for success and a sense of belonging. The Center has touched the lives of thousands over the years and mere words cannot describe the difference they have made to those individuals.

For the innumerable contributions it has made to our community, it is with great pride that I stand today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center on its 35th Anniversary. Through their unparalleled dedication and commitment, they have helped to change the face of our community and have made it a better place for our children and families.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP RUSSELL
SCOTT ON THE CELEBRATION OF
HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Bishop Russell Scott as he celebrates his 100th birthday at a party in his honor at the Galloping Hill Caterers on Saturday, July 3, 2004. To live a century is indeed a significant event; to accomplish so much during that time is truly outstanding.

As a member of Glad Tidings Pentecostal Tabernacle Church, Bishop Scott established himself as an integral part of the church. He served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, a Deacon, Church Clerk and Treasurer. He went on to become Pastor and later, a Bishop. Since he was a mason by training, Bishop Scott supervised the building of the new church edifice which was completed and dedicated on March 20, 1960. Bishop Scott has since retired but still serves as overseer prelate.

In addition to the contributions made to his church, Bishop Scott was active in the community and has received many certificates for his involvement. They include certificates from the Essex County Probation Department, the Cornell Center Chapel Service, the U.S. De-

partment of Commerce, Senior Citizen Nutrition Site in Orange, NJ and a certificate as former Tour Host for Trinity Travel and Tours Abroad to Israel. Bishop Scott also served as President of the United Clergy of Vauxhall and Vicinity. He received his theological and divinity degrees from Miller University.

Bishop Scott is indeed blessed to join a very exclusive club of centenarians. I am delighted to wish him well as he celebrates this occasion. I know that my colleagues join me in sending best wishes for continued health and happiness to Bishop Russell Scott on his 100th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION ACT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce H.R. 4546, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act. Better known as NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was created by Executive Order in 1970. As Chairman of the Environment, Technology and Standards Subcommittee of the House Science Committee, I oversee much of NOAA. It is the Nation's lead civilian agency for oceans and atmosphere, yet Congress has never passed an overarching organic act describing the mission and functions of the agency. Instead, over the past 34 years Congress has defined the mission of the agency in a piecemeal manner with legislation focused on specific issues. The bill I am introducing today is a first step toward Congressional passage of comprehensive legislation for NOAA.

On April 20, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released its long awaited Preliminary Report with recommendations for a coordinated national ocean policy. One of its key recommendations is that Congress should pass an organic act for NOAA. At a recent Science Committee hearing, the chairman of the Commission emphasized the importance of this recommendation and I strongly agree with him. The time is right for Congress to consider, and pass, this organic act for NOAA, an agency that provides vital services to the Nation that range from weather forecasts and warnings to cutting-edge marine research.

My bill contains three major sections. Title I is an organic act for NOAA. It establishes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) within the Department of Commerce and defines the mission of NOAA. This mission is "to understand and predict changes in the Earth's oceans and atmosphere and the effects of such changes on the land environment, to conserve and manage coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and to educate the public about these topics." My bill maintains the current leadership structure at NOAA, but adds a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science and Technology to serve as the point person for the agency to coordinate the research and science activities of NOAA across the agency.

Title I of my bill also describes the functions of NOAA, which are divided into three broad groups to improve cooperation among NOAA's

programs, as recommended by the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. First is the National Weather Service, which provides weather, water and climate forecasts and warnings to the Nation. The second group is operations and services, which includes all of NOAA's satellites services and its mapping and charting services. The third category of functions is research and education.

The bill focuses on pieces of NOAA under Science Committee jurisdiction, and does not currently include any references to NOAA's fisheries or resource management, which are under the jurisdiction of the Resources Committee here in the House. I am hopeful that we can work with other committees in the House and our colleagues in the Senate to pass a truly comprehensive organic act for NOAA, but for now we must start with this piece of legislation.

The second part of the bill is a three year general authorization for NOAA's line offices. The third part of my bill in Titles III–VII is a series of NOAA-related legislation from the 108th Congress that I believe are important programs to specifically authorize at this time.

I believe it is critical for NOAA's mission to be clearly defined so it can better fulfill its role in observing, managing, and protecting our Nation's coastal, ocean and Great Lakes resources. I look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to pass this bill into law this year. This will not be an easy task, but it is so important to our environment, our economy, and our children's and grandchildren's future, that we must succeed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF BARBARA W. WINTERS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of an outstanding member of our community, Barbara W. Winters. Throughout her life, Barbara dedicated herself to the community and to making a difference in the lives of others. With her we lose an advocate, leader, and friend.

Barbara dedicated both her professional and personal life to enriching her community. With a big heart and an infectious smile, she worked hard to not only achieve her goals, but inspire others to do so as well. It is not often that you find an individual with the depth of compassion and generosity that Barbara demonstrated every day. I, as with so many others, consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to know her and to work with her over the years. I was always impressed with her vision, tenacity, and leadership. She was a role model for us all.

The strength of Barbara's character is reflected in the lifetime that she dedicated to others. Whether as a community advocate, educator, or, most recently, as the Program Director for Life Haven—a temporary shelter for homeless, pregnant women and women with young children—Barbara was always there to provide a strong voice on behalf of children, families, and the community.

Barbara understood the importance of giving back to the community and utilizing your tal-

ents to make it a better place to live. In addition to her professional career, she dedicated much of her personal time to community service organizations where her efforts helped those most in need. The YWCA, NAACP, Connecticut Association for Human Services, and the Urban League of Greater New Haven are just a sample of the organizations with which she was involved. Through these organizations and others, her good work touched the lives of many.

It is with my thanks that I extend heart-felt condolences to her three sons, Joseph, Mark, and Frank, and the family of Barbara W. Winters as friends, colleagues, and community members gather to remember her lifetime of achievement. Barbara has left an indelible mark on our community and a legacy that is certain to inspire many.

TRIBUTE TO THE FAYETTEVILLE- MANLIUS GIRLS' LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Fayetteville-Manlius Girls' Lacrosse Team, which recently won the Class A State Championship title.

This team reached the state tournament by defeating Liverpool High School in the Section III final. They then proceeded to win their regional game and their state semifinal game, landing them in the New York State Championship contest with Brighton High School. In the championship, Fayetteville-Manlius was victorious over Brighton by a score of 13–7, granting them the state title.

Tri-captains Courtney Farrell, Kristina Twichell, and Elisabeth Christie led team members Kristen Greiner, Leah Giffin, Kelly Taylor, Julie Ondrako, Kaitlin Englert, Mari Stefano, Meggie McNamara, Katie Deblois, Julie Papaleo, Casey Costello, Meghan Klepper, Kayla Woods, Courtney Mahar, Brenna Houghton, Katie Devaney, Kelsi Cleary-Hammarstedt, and Alex Johnston to the championship. Among these players were nine first team all league players, four all-tournament team players, three high school all-Americans, three all-CNY players and the all-CNY player of the year. Head coach, Kathy Taylor, and assistant coach, Sarah Averson, guided this highly successful team in all of their accomplishments.

I would like to express my congratulations to this championship team for their outstanding achievements and wish them the best of luck with their future endeavors.

HUD GENERATED SECTION 8 CRISIS CONTINUES

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in April of this year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development promulgated new rules regarding the Section 8 program which have caused a great deal of distress through-

out the country. Essentially, housing authorities throughout the United States were told by HUD in April that they were getting a retroactive reduction in their Section 8 funds for this fiscal year, and many were confronted with the choice of reducing rents to responsible landlords, terminating existing Section 8 contracts for tenants, raising rents on the lowest income people, and in other ways cutting back on this important program. As a result of the nationwide outcry, HUD did propose some measures to lessen the crisis, no doubt aided by the fact that HUD Secretary Jackson had to testify before the Financial Services Committee on May 20 and knew that he would be asked about this problem. It is now clear that the proposals that HUD made and announced on that day were somewhat helpful in some cases, but have left the crisis an ongoing one.

Paradoxically, while engendering cutbacks in this program—the largest single federal housing assistance program—the Administration has been claiming credit for a new initiative to combat homelessness. Conceptually, this initiative has a great deal to commend it, but any good it could do will be greatly outweighed by the damage being done by the Administration's Section 8 cuts.

On May 30, the Journal News of Westchester County, New York, ran an excellent editorial pointing out the great inconsistency in the Administration's approach here. Note that the date of this editorial is ten days after Secretary Jackson testified before the Financial Services Committee that he had resolved the problem—and proof that he has not in fact done so could be produced by dozens of other well-documented newspaper stories in various states. As the editorial notes, the Executive Director of the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority “called the impact on Yonkers ‘devastating’”—referring to the Administration's Section 8 approach.

Many of us want to work with the Administration in alleviating homelessness and welcome new approaches that bring resources together in a thoughtful way. But pretending that we can do this while cutting back on Section 8 is the worst form of putting style over substance, with devastating results on those people in the country who are truly trying to help the homeless, and others in need.

[From the Journal News, May 30, 2004]

HELP, NOT HINDER

President Bush's homelessness czar, Philip Mangano, brought a message to Westchester Tuesday: Create a 10-year plan to end homelessness. What does Mangano think Westchester has been trying to do for the last 20 years?

Here's a message for Mangano to take back to Washington: Help, not hinder. Stop cutting back federal dollars that assist local communities in providing housing that prevents homelessness.

Mangano met with County Executive Andrew Spano to outline the administration's vision of a partnership between counties, local municipalities, nonprofit groups, businesses and the homeless aimed at preventing people from losing their homes, providing services to those newly placed in housing and redirecting some of the money spent on emergency housing to permanent housing.

Sounds wonderful—and we've heard it before.

Apparently Mangano does not realize the strides Westchester has made since, say, 1990, when the county spent \$40 million to house the homeless in motels, and when a